(c) whether it is a fact that an American Company 'Panamsat' has applied to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board to make an investment in setting up a subsidiary in India to market satellite services in the country;

(d) whether any decision has been taken in the matter and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the case would be decided within the parameter of "Norms and guidelines" of satellite communication framed in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has framed Satellite Communication Policy laying down norms and guidelines relating to the use of INSAT capacity for private and non-government users. The INSAT Co-ordination Committee (ICC) will earmark capacity for use by non-government users. Department of Space (DoS) is authorised to provide this capacity to the non-government users following the prescribed procedures. The policy allows the use of foreign satellites only if similar capacity or capability does not exist in Indian satellites. Indian companies with Foreign Direct Investment of less than 74% are allowed to establish satellite systems.

(c) and (d) PanAmSat India Inc. has applied to Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) for setting up fully owned subsidiary in India, and the same has been approved by the Government.

(e) The case has been decided within the parameters of the above mentioned Satellite Communication Policy.

Re-Usable Launch Vehicle

4284. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to build re-usable launch vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely amount of savings by re-use of launch vehicle; and

(d) by when work on the project is likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) ISRO has been considering as a long-range goal, investigative studies on reusable launch vehicles;

(b) The studies include areas like air-breathing propulsion, re-entry and recovery of space modules and mission studies;

(c) and (d) The project can be finalized only after the investigative studies. The amount of possible savings can be estimated only after detailed studies in the next few years, taking into account the investment to realize the highly complex technical challenges involved.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Action against Religious Institutions in Delhi

1. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have initiated action against religious institutions in Delhi which are in existence even before Independence of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to regularise them ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) and (b) As a part of its drive against unauthorised construction and illegal encroachment, notices have been issued by the Land & Development Office and the Delhi Development Authority to the encroachers on public land who have built illegal structures by giving it an appearance of religious structure. While a part may be used for religious use; most of the illegally occupied public land and the illegal structure built on it are being used for commercial, semi-commercial and residential use. The number of notices issued recently by Delhi Development Authority is 123 and by the Land and Development Office 60. While the bonafide use is intended to be regularised on certain terms and conditions and on payment of the prescribed rates for religious structures, commercial component would be assessed to damages at the commercial rate and will be dealt with as per provisions of law. Two of the persons, to whom notices have been sent, have claimed that they have been occupying public land before 1947. Their claims are being scrutinised.